Learning are addressing the issue of environmental disasters. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) had introduced Disaster Management as a part of the Curriculum in Social Science in the year 2003-2004 in Class VIII and subsequently in Class IX during the year 2004-2005. CBSE will introduce a Disaster Management course in Class X in the academic year 2005-2006.

Drop outs in schools

†647. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of students discontinuing their study at Primary and Secondary Schools level is alarming;

(b) if so, the number of such students in Primary and Middle Schools on National Level; and

(c) the States where this number exceeds the National Level; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) As per information available with the Ministry, during 2002-03, the dropout rates at the National Level at the primary and secondary school stage were 34.89 and 62.58 per cent. respectively.

(c) During 2002-03, in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar including Jharkhand, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura and West Bengal, the dropouts at the primary/secondary school level exceeds the national average.

Meeting of State Education Ministers

648. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA:
SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.